

Course Syllabus-The History of Immigration and Ethnicity in America/ History 4304: 001

Fall 2014/Dr. Mark Saad Saka/ Sul Ross State University

Office: Lawrence Hall 210/ 432-837-8304

Office Hours: M, W, 10:00-12:00/T, Th; 11:00-12:00. Office Hours can also be arranged by appointment.

Course Objectives:

This course seeks to examine immigration and the evolving construction of race and ethnicity in the history of the United States. Beginning in the colonial era through the founding of the Republic, we will examine the impact of continuing patterns of immigration from Europe, Asia, and Latin America through the present. At the end of this course you should have a deeper understanding of the formation of America's ethnic diversity and multi-cultural character.

Course Requirements:

There are a number of requirements for this course.

1. Regular and punctual attendance.
2. Classroom Courtesy-no cellphones or texting in class.
3. Five exams. Each exam will count as 100 points.
4. Two required book review over "How the Irish Became White" and "Borderless Economics. (50 points each)"
5. I will then add the top four exams and the two book reviews and divide by five.

90-100=A; 80-89=B; 70-79=C; 60-69=D; 0-59=F

Required Reading.

Major Problems in American Immigration by Jon Gerede, Houghton Mifflin. ISBN # 0-395-81532-0

How the Irish Became White by Noel Ignatiev, Routledge Press, ISBN # 978-0415963091

Borderless Economics: Chinese Sea Turtles, Indian Fridges and the New Fruits of Global Capitalism, by Robert Guest, Palgrave Press, ISBN # 978-0-230-11382-4. 2011.

Primary Learning Objectives:

The graduating student in history will be able to:

1. The student will be able to develop an informed, critical, and articulate approach to the study of history.

2. The student will be able to demonstrate knowledge of historical events, movements, major turning points and personalities of the past.
3. The student will be able to demonstrate an ability to identify and relate the role that historical interpretation plays in the assessments of the past.
4. The student will be able to write effectively, logically, and persuasively about topics in history.

The Primary Learning Objectives (PLO) shall be measured by the administration of five exams and one book review over the book "Borderless Economics." Each exam will consist of essays and short answers which shall measure your command of the knowledge and information contained in the lectures and the readings.

The Americans with Disabilities Act:

Sul Ross State University is committed to equal access in compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1973. It is the student's responsibility to initiate a request for accessibility services. Students seeking accessibility services must contact Grace Duffy in Counseling and Accessibility Services, Ferguson Hall, Room 112. The mailing address is P.O. Box C-171, Sul Ross State University, Alpine Texas 79832, Telephone Number 432-837-8203.

Course Outline

Block One: Immigration and the New American Republic: 1607-1815

The first block of instruction will cover major themes and characteristics for understanding immigration in American history. We will examine basic theories and terms for understanding why immigrants leave their homes of origin and why they choose to move somewhere else (push and pull factors), etc.

We will also examine to colonial origins of the American Republic and the role of various immigrant patterns and peoples played in the settling of America? We will conclude this section with the founding the American Republic and the origins of our national citizenship criteria?

This exam covers chapters one and two in the textbook "Major Problems in American Immigration History" and material from the lectures".

Block Two: Immigration and the Early Republic to the Civil War: 1815-1865/1882

This second block of instruction will cover the first major phase of immigration in what historians refer to as the "Long Century of Immigration; 1815-1924". We will examine the "pull" factors that attracted people to America and then we will examine the "push" factors as to why people left Ireland and Germany and why American nativists were so fearful of Irish, German and particularly Catholic immigrants. We will also examine the expansion of the United States into the Mexican Southwest and the racialization of the Mexican population in the Southwest. Finally, this section will cover the first

wave of Asian migration to the United States, the Chinese and the subsequent nativist backlash which led to the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882.

This exam covers chapters three, four, and five and pages 194-203 in chapter six in the textbook and material from the lectures. **This exam also incorporates the book “How the Irish Became White” which will be due with your exam.**

Block Three: Immigration and the Industrialization of America: 1865-1924

This third block of instruction covers the second major phase of immigration in “The Long Century of Immigration” during the industrialization of the Republic. We will examine “pull” factors that attracted people to America and then we will examine the “push” factors as to why people left Asia (Japan, the Philippines, Korea, and India), Mexico, and Eastern and Southern Europe (Italy, Russia, Poland, Greece, the Levant, the Balkans, and the Austro-Hungarian Empire). We will also examine the rise of nativism, “scientific racism”, the eugenics movement, and the triumph of nativism with the Immigration Restriction Act of 1924.

This exam covers chapters six, seven, eight, nine, and ten in the textbook and material from the lectures.

Block Four: Immigration Amidst Depress, War and the Cold war: 1924-1965

This block of instruction covers the era between the Immigration Restriction Act of 1924 and its reversal with the Immigration Act of 1965. The process of assimilation of the second generation of Eastern and Southern European immigrants as well as the racist reaction to the second generation of Japanese immigrants during the Second World War will be covered as well as the virulent anti-Semitism of the 1920s through the 1940s. We will also cover Cold War politics and the migration of Cubans to America. Finally we will also cover the immigration of Mexicans to the American Southwest during the age of the Braceros as well as from Puerto Rico.

This exam covers chapter eleven and twelve and pages 554-569 in the textbook and material from the lectures.

Block Five: Immigration in the New America: 1965-2012

This block of instruction covers the mass immigration to the United States following the immigration reform of 1965 and immigration in the age of globalization. This section will examine the new Asian immigrants from China, India and Southeast Asia, the immigration of Muslims from the Middle East, and Mexico and Central America since the 1970s.

This exam covers chapters thirteen, fourteen and fifteen in the textbook and material from the lectures. **The book review for “Borderless Economics” is due along with your final exam.**

Course Outline

August 26-introduction to course/syllabus review

August 28-Major themes and concepts in immigration history

Sept. 02-The Anglo Protestant formation of America

Sept. 04-Colonial America

Sept. 09-Colonial America

Sept. 11-the Revolution and the new Republic

Sept. 16-Exam # 1

Sept. 18-The growth of the American Republic 1790-1850

Sept. 23-The Irish

Sept. 25-The Germans

Sept. 30-Texas and the new Southwest

Oct. 02- The Chinese in California

Oct. 07-Racialization and the Southwest

Oct. 09 Nativism and the Know Nothings

Oct. 14-Exam # 2

Oct. 16-The Rise of Industrial America, 1865-1920

Oct. 21-The Italians

Oct. 23-the East European Jews

Oct. 28-The Poles, Greeks, and Slavs.

Oct. 30 The Mexicans

Nov. 04- The rise of nativism and eugenics

Nov. 06- the 1924 Immigration Restriction Act

Nov. 11- Exam # 3

Nov. 13- Immigration 1924-1945

Nov. 14-last day to drop course with a W.

Nov. 18- The New Asians

Nov. 20- The New Asians

Nov. 25-Mexicans in the age of globalization

Nov. 27-no class-Thanksgiving Holiday

Dec. 02-Muslims in America Book Reviews for Borderless Economic Due. (last class day)

Dec. 09-final exam (exam # 4)

Things to Think about for “Borderless Economics.”

How is immigration creating a new and dynamic element in the process of globalization for the 21st century?

How does immigration in an increasingly globalized world make us richer? Provide some examples from the book.

What does the author mean by the “curse of isolation”? Why is South Korea wealthier and healthier than North Korea?

Why can migrants seem to find economic opportunity where native born citizens sometimes overlook economic opportunity? Who is Cheung Yan?

How have immigrant scientists helped transform a new technology sector? What does the author mean by “networks of trust”?

Why do migrants choose to come to America?

How does immigration in an era of globalization help America than other countries?

Why will America remain number one? Why are we the hub of the world?

What are some potential policy changes in our immigration policies that will ensure America’s future?